

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the claims and abstract as amended in this Preliminary Amendment for examination purposes. Entry of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0573. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

DRINKER, BIDDLE & REATH LLP



Ronald L. Grudzicki, Reg. No.: 24,970

Dated: January 6, 2006

CUSTOMER NO. 55694

DRINKER, BIDDLE & REATH LLP

1500 K Street, N.W., Suite 1100

Washington, D.C. 20005-1209

Tel: (202) 842-8800

Fax: (202)-204-0289